

Message Text

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47

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 AID-20 CU-05 OIC-04

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ARA-16 NEA-14

IOE-00 AGR-20 EB-11 DRC-01 SWF-02 /229 W

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P R 271314Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6602

INFO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0209

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1500

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, PBOR, MA, US

SUBJECT: EMBASSY DEMARCHE ON CAMBODIAN REPRESENTATION ISSUE

PARIS FOR UNESCO

REF: A. STATE 206830; B. STATE 192437; C. STATE 192560;

D. STATE 210886; E. TANANARIVE 957.

1. DCM MET WITH MALAGASY FONOFF DIRECTOR BILATERAL RELATIONS
CLAUDE RATSIMANDRESY SEPT 27 TO PRESENT US POSITION ON
QUESTION OF CAMBODIAN REPRESENTATION IN UNGA AND UNESCO.
DRAWING ON STATE REFTELS DCM EXPLAINED US POSITION EMPHASIZING
QUESTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND PRECEDENT INVOLVED FOR
UN AS INSTITUTION. RATSIMANDRESY NOTED DIFFICULTY HIS
GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE IN ACTIVELY SUPPORTING GKR AT 29TH GA
BECAUSE OF GOMR'S ALIGNMENT WITH LDC'S AND RECOGNITION
OF GRUNK. DCM INDICATED THAT THIS WAS UNDERSTOOD BUT THOUGHT
IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR GOMR TO CONSIDER ABSTENTION OR
ABSENCE IN VIEW OF BROADER QUESTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
INVOLVED.

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2. RATSIMANDRESY NOTED THAT HE WAS NOT FULLY INFORMED AS TO PRESENT ATMOSPHERE IN NEW YORK ON THIS ISSUE AND GENERAL ATTITUDES OF LDC'S WHICH WOULD INFLUENCE HIS FOREIGN MINISTER WHO IS ALREADY IN NEW YORK. HE ALSO SUGGESTED INDIRECTLY THAT MULTILATERAL RELATIONS ARE NOT HIS BAILIWICK AND THEN ASKED WHETHER USG WOULD CONSIDER ABSTENTION ON THIS ISSUE AS AN "IMPORTANT GESTURE." IN RESPONSE TO THIS ELLIPTICAL BUT CLEAR REFERENCE TO AN EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH PREVIOUS DCM (REFTEL E), DCM POINTED OUT THAT "GESTURE" CARRIED IMPLICATION OF A SINGLE ACT. DCM SAID HE HOPED THAT IT WAS CLEAR TO GOMR THAT WE WERE NOT SUGGESTING THAT SUPPORT ON A MULTILATERAL ISSUE COULD BE DIRECTLY AND IMMEDIATELY REFLECTED IN SOME WAY IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. FURTHER, WHAT WE HAD BEEN TRYING TO SUGGEST WAS THAT UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT ON ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL ARENA COULD HELP TO CREATE MORE POSITIVE AMBIANCE FOR DISCUSSING OTHER MUTUAL INTERESTS-- A SINGLE ACT COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FROM THE USG SUCH AS AID, FOR EXAMPLE. RATSIMANDRESY INDICATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THESE POINTS.

3. RATSIMANDRESY SAID THAT HE WOULD PASS OUR COMMENTS ON TO FOREIGN MINISTER IN NEW YORK AND SAID THAT HE HOPED IT WAS NOT TOO LATE FOR FOREIGN MINISTER TO CONSIDER OUR APPROACH. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE ADDED THAT HE THOUGHT AN ABSTENTION WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE ACTION TO TAKE.

4. MUCH LATER IN CONVERSATION RATSIMANDRESY TURNED TO SUBJECT OF MADAGASCAR'S NEEDS AS POOR COUNTRY AND HIS PERSONAL INTEREST IN AGRICULTURE, WHICH WAS SEEN AS SOUNDING ON EMBASSY'S WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS FURTHER AID. DCM RESPONDED THAT AGRICULTURE WAS SECTOR OF ECONOMY THAT APPEARED TO OFFER MOST PROMISE AS FOCAL POINT FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MADAGASCAR. DCM NOTED THAT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WAS PRIORITY AREA WORLDWIDE FOR USAID AND THAT WE MIGHT DISCUSS SOME GOMR PROPOSAL IN THIS FIELD AT SOME FUTURE TIME BUT THAT EMBASSY COULD NOT AT ALL GUARANTEE ANY RESULTS GIVEN CONGRESSIONAL LIMITATIONS ON AID, LARGE NUMBER OF LDC'S SEEKING AID, AND OUR OWN ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

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5. RATSIMANDRESY'S COMMENTS ON RECENT SOVIET VISIT WILL BE REPORTED IN SEPTTEL.

6. EMBASSY COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT RATSIMANDRESY WILL IN GOOD FAITH PASS SUBSTANCE OF EMBASSY APPROACH TO FOREIGN MINISTER WHICH MAY AT LEAST LEAD TO CONSIDERATION OF ABSTENTION OR ABSENCE WHICH WAS NOT LIKELY BEFORE APPROACH MADE. GIVEN QUALITY OF FONOFF'S COMMUNICATIONS,

USUN AND US MISSION UNESCO MAY WISH TO FOLLOW UP ON
EMBASSY APPROACH. FACT THAT RATSIMANDRESY WAS INDIRECT
ON NUMBER OF POINTS IS USUAL IN THIS COUNTRY AND EMBASSY
FEELS THAT HOW WE INTERPRET HIS REMARKS WAS WHAT HE
INTENDED: "YOU TRY TO SCRATCH MY BACK, I'LL TRY TO
SCRATCH YOURS," BUT WE ARE BOTH SUBJECT TO OTHER CONSTRAINTS.
MENDENHALL

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